

Remarks

Claims 1, 3-8, 17, 19, and 20 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 3, 8, 17, and 20 have been amended in various particulars as indicated hereinabove. Claims 2 and 18 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer.

Claims 1-8 and 17-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Wolfgang (SPIE Vol. 2906, Microrobotics: Components and Applications). This rejection is respectfully traversed for the following reasons.

As pointed out previously, the present claimed invention requires an optical system aligner that characterizes the positions of the optical components, which have been bonded to the optical benches by the pick-and-place machine. As noted in the past, the Wolfgang article describes a system that only aligns before laser welding.

To further distinguish the claimed invention, the claims have been amended to require solder bonding and plastic-deformation-alignment of bench-bonded mounting structures.

These features are neither shown nor suggested by the applied reference.

Thus, withdrawal of the rejection is warranted.

It is believed that the present application is in condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance is respectfully solicited. Should any questions arise, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

By _____ /grant houston/
J. Grant Houston
Registration No.: 35,900
Tel.: 781 863 9991
Fax: 781 863 9931

Lexington, Massachusetts 02421
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